

CT-95
JAMES T. COX FARM
(2nd Half 19th Century)
Sunderland
Private

A well-maintained five-bay, 2½-story farmhouse, a well house, meat house, privy, coal bin, garage, corn crib and tobacco barns here comprise a neat and orderly farm. Three generations of the same family have lived on the Cox farm with relatively few changes.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

James T. Cox Farm

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Lower Marlboro Road (Maryland Route 262)

CITY, TOWN

Sunderland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Calvert**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**

☐ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Elsie Ensminger

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Lower Marlboro Road

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The one or two generations that have matured without giving a thought as to what it might be like without central heat or indoor plumbing are often ethno centric about those conveniences. That a clean and healthy existence is possible without them, however, is proven by life on the Cox farm on Lower Marlboro Road. Here the widowed, Mrs. Elsie Ensminger, lives in the house which her grandfather built over years ago. Mrs. Ensminger prefers to draw her own water in a bucket from the well, which is near the west end of the house; she feels no need for an indoor toilet and is happy with the coal fed space heaters. Mrs. Ensminger still cures her own meats. This writer can attest to the neat and orderly appearance of the farm some of which can be seen in the accompanying photographs.

The house is a five bay wide, two and a half story, structure with exterior chimneys on both ends. There is a gable end roof with three regularly spaced pedimented dormers on the south side. On this same facade, there is a porch covering three bays which has been screened in. Windows are 6/6. The exterior has been covered with aluminum siding; the interior was not examined.

There are many dependencies around this farm house. About 20' from the west end, there is a well house. The tall and slender structure contains a pulley and rope with a bucket attached. All of the water necessary for cooking, bathing, etc is acquired in this manner. Behind (N) the main dwelling (and near the kitchen) is the meathouse which on June 24, 1976 was locked and full of meat. It is constructed of machine cut timbers nailed together with wire nails and covered with vertical weatherboard.

Northwest of the meathouse, the privy sits behind bushes. Like the other structures which are in the immediate vicinity of the house, it is painted a crisp white. There is a tiny V-shaped vent cut into the top of the door.

The other buildings are west of the main house and they are connected by a dirt farm lane. The first structure encountered is the coal bin. Beyond it is the garage. It is a board and batten building with a metal roof.

A large tobacco barn is next and according to Mrs. Ensminger, it is the oldest of the outbuildings having been there as long as she can remember. The original barn is C. 24' x 40' and is constructed of hand hewn beams fastened by mortise and tenons with trunnels. This barn has continuous plates and sills. Sheds have been added giving it the strange gambrel appearance which seems to be unique to Southern Maryland tobacco barns. The addition on the east end, when viewed from the north, is not as high as the main portion and has a single direction or shed roof. A gable-end, main roof with a single direction or shed roof on one end sloping away from the building, is not an uncommon arrangement.

West of the large tobacco barn is a grouping of smaller buildings on the lane. These include a modern cinderblock storage shed, a corn house and another barn. Long white washed boards in the loft of the cornhouse may be materials from an earlier structure. The smaller barn is made of hand hewn timbers fastened by mortise and tenon with trunnels. Cut nails are evident in this

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

07-95

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In addition to the house, there are many outbuildings on this farm, and they vary in age as much as function. Among these are a meathouse, privy and well house which are still in use. This neat and well kept 19th Century farm also has a tobacco barn, which, like the other buildings, preserves that era by remaining in use.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

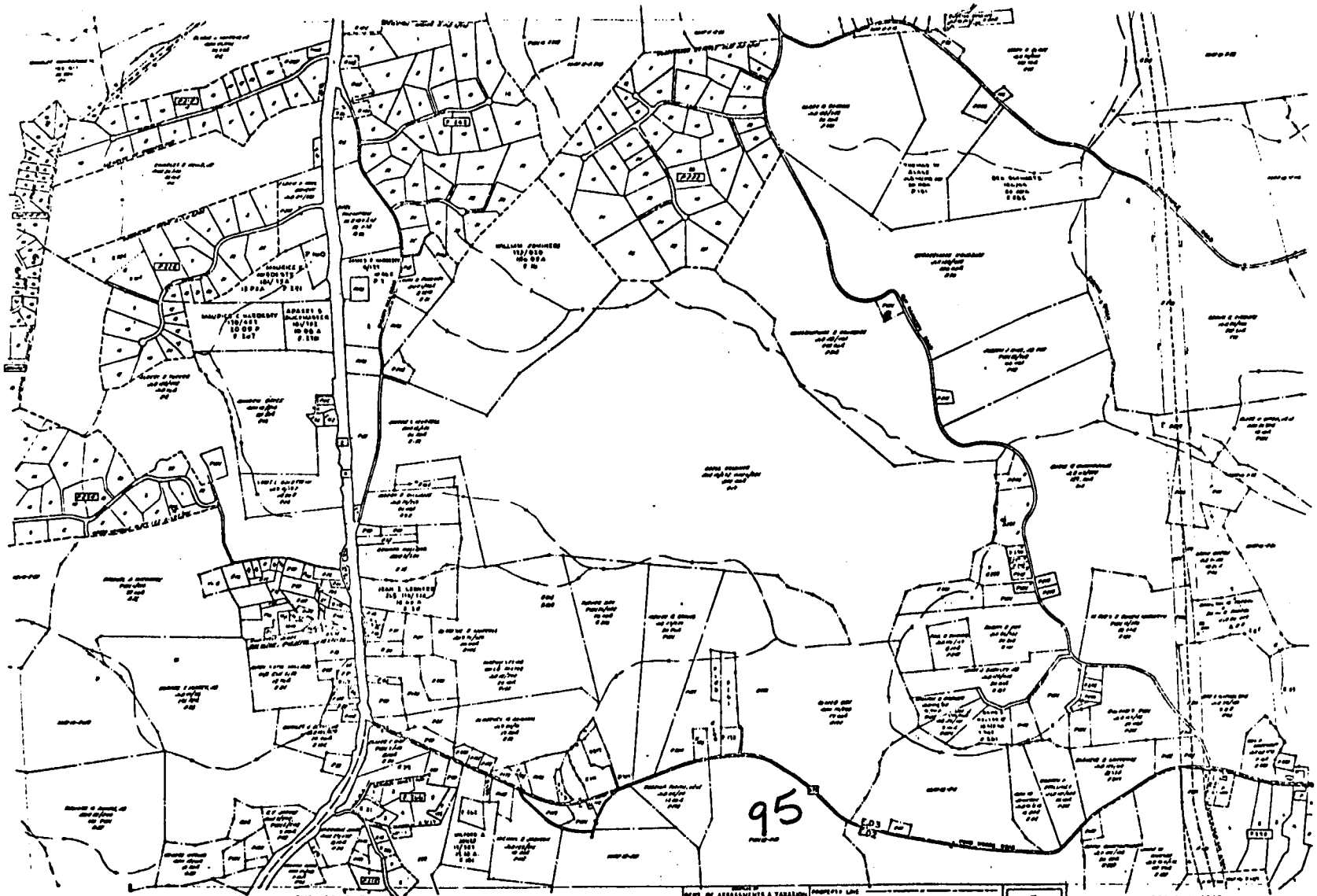
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

building.

The adjoining property (W) was once part of this farm. It contains a large tobacco barn that does not appear older than those described here. A modern brick ranch house now stands upon a hill and family tradition holds that it is the site of an earlier log cabin.

CT-95 © James T. Cox

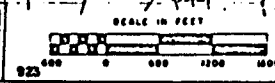


Map of Assessments & Taxation
for the year 1900

Map of Assessments & Taxation
for the year 1900

Map of Assessments & Taxation
for the year 1900

Map of Assessments & Taxation
for the year 1900



MAP NO
15

CALVERT COUNTY 900-288
NOT FOR SALE

Powder Mill

NORTH BEACH
QUAD

5661 11 NW
(LOWER MARLBORO)
DUNKIRK 3.8 MI.
CHANEYVILLE 1.2 MI.

4281
40'

LOWER MARLBORO 3.3 MI.
4279

4278

Graham

Chen

CT-95

Creek

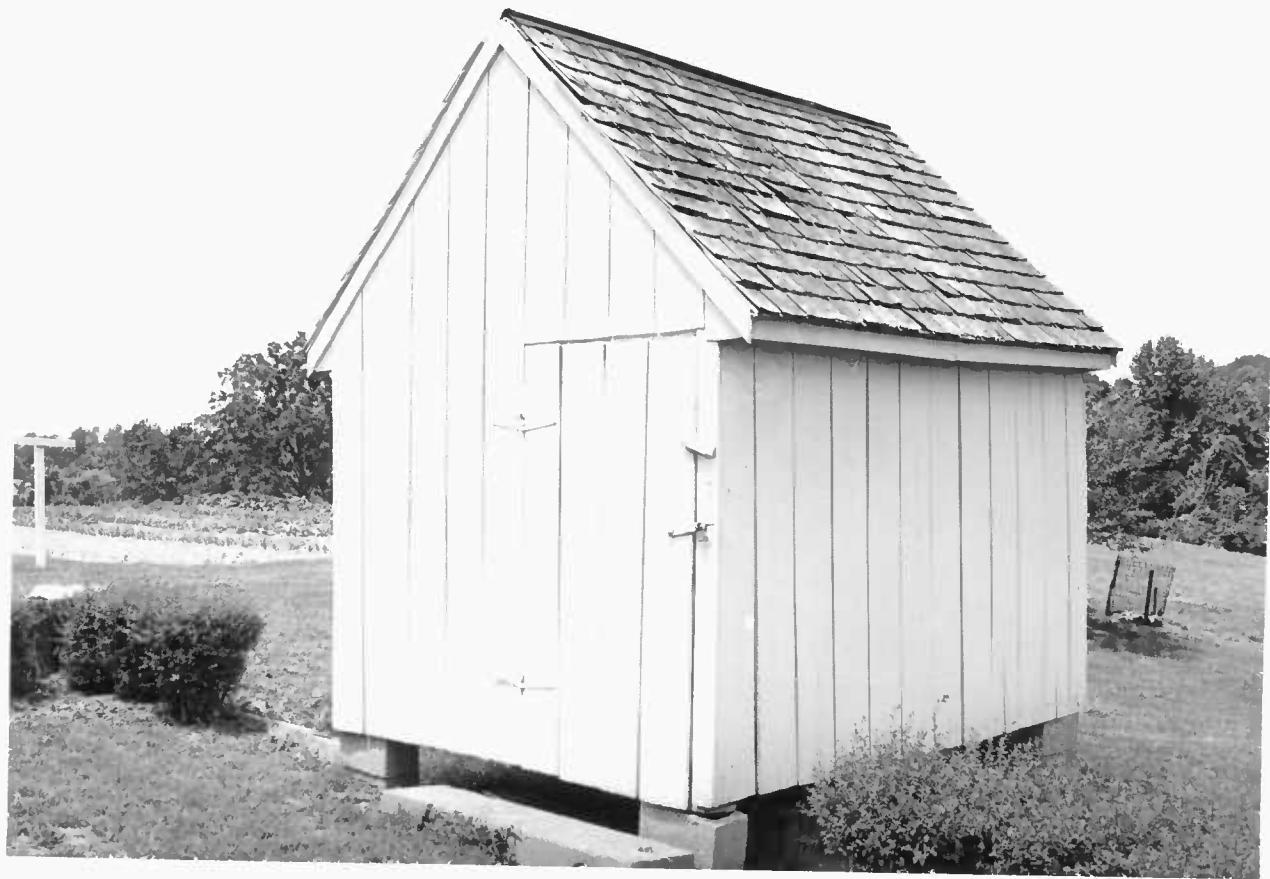
Sunderland

BM.
168
All Saints

Cocktown
Creek

Fishing
Creek

Creek

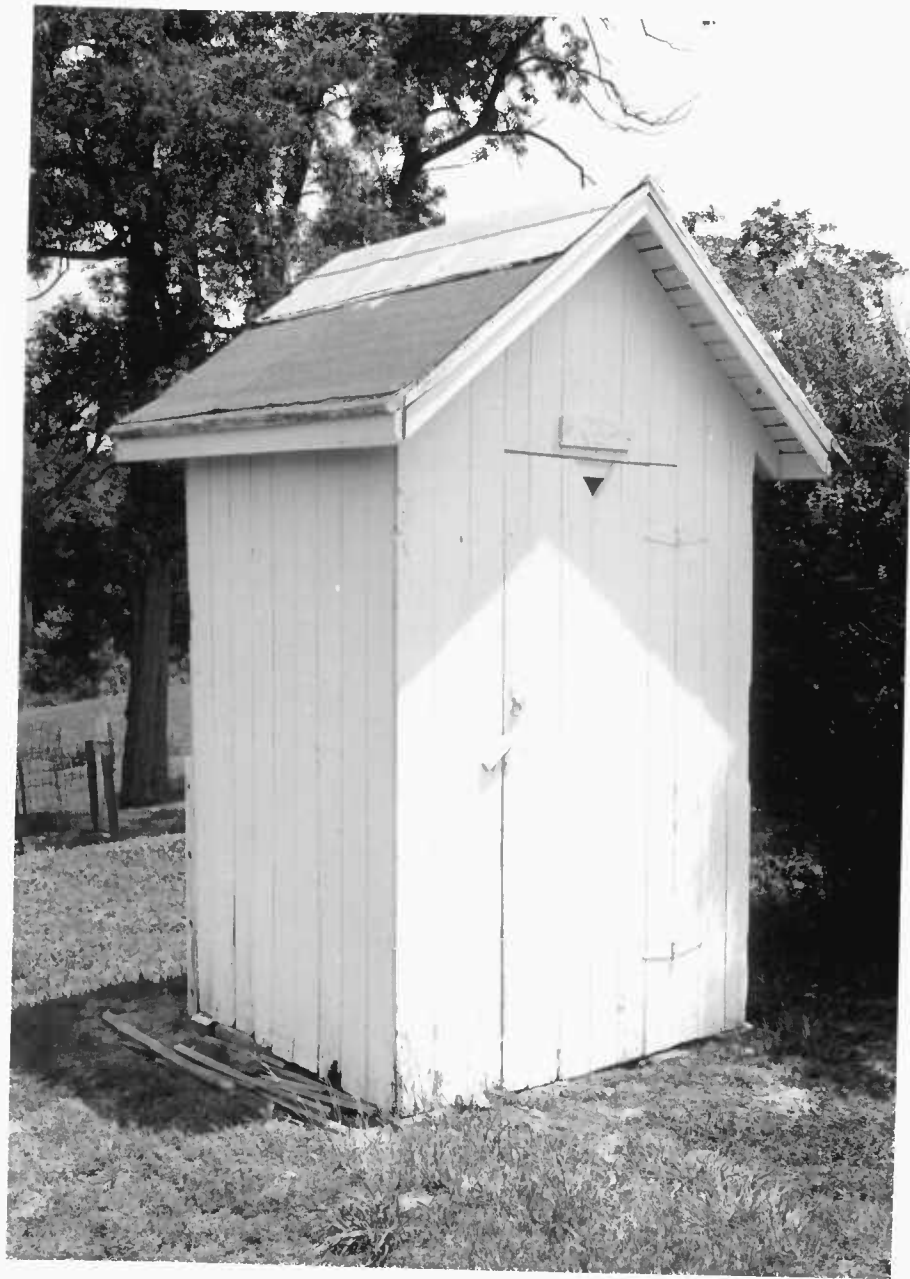


CT-95

James T. Cox

12

W.N.



CT. 95
James T. Cox

W.N.